THE URBAN DISTRICT OF ESHER AND THE DITTONS

TWENTY FIFTH

ANNUAL REPORT OF

THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND OF

THE

SANITARY INSPECTOR

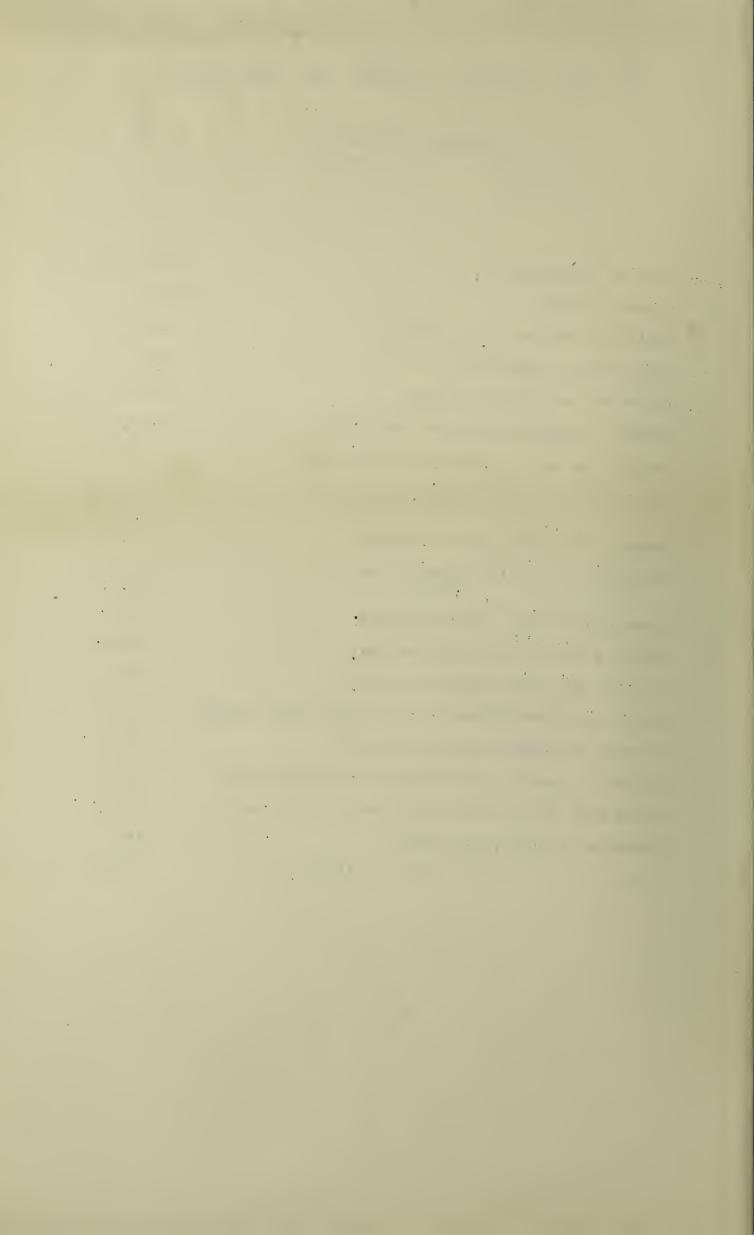
FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31ST 1919.



THE URBAN DISTRICT OF ESHER AND THE DITTONS.

GENERAL STATISTICS,

Area of the District,	5987 Acres
Rateable Value.	£167263
Estimated produce of ld rate.	£ 545.
Population, Census 1911.	12518
Estimated to middle of 1920.	13773.
Number of inhabited houses Census 1911	2 7 53.
Average number of persons per house.	4.5
Birth rate per 1000 living, population 14055.	13.7
Average for three previous years	16.0
Death rate per 1000 living, population 13492.	11.2.
Average for three previous years	12.9
Infant Mortality per 1000 births.	78.8.
Average for three previous years.	67.5.
Death rate from Epidemic disease per 1000 living	g. 0,2.
Average for three previous years.	0.5.
Number of deaths from Tuberculosis (all forms)	9,
Death rate from tuberculosis per 1000 living	0,6.
Number of deaths from Cancer	19.
Death rate from Cancer per 1000 living.	1.4.



Thames Ditton, Surrey,

April 1920.

To the Chairman and Members of the Urban District Council Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my twenty-fifth annual report on the sanitary condition and health of the district for the year ending Dec. 31st 1919.

The Ministry of Health has asked for certain information to be supplied in such reports as this, and hence some of the matter included in it may be of general knowledge, and not seem to be necessary from the point of view of residents in the district.

At the census of 1911 the population of the district was 12518, and it is estimated by the Registrar General to be for the purpose of estimating birth rates 14055, and for death rates 13492.

The district is situated on the south bank of the Thames, and is about 12 miles from London. It covers an area of 5978 acres and contains the villages of Thames Ditton, Long Ditton Esher and Claygate.

It is bounded by the Thames on the north-east, and on the west by the rivers Mole and Ember. The eastern boundary is that of the Urban District of Surbiton, and on the south the parishes of Oxshott and Cobham adjoin it.

The lower portion of the district includes Thames Ditton and parts of Esher and Long Ditton, the lowest level being 22ft above Ordnance datum. The Subsoil of this part is gravel overlying the London clay. The remainder of Long Ditton, and the whole of Claygate are of higher levels and on London clay, while the highest part is in Esher, where the lower Bagshot sands appear, resting on London clay. This part is about 160 ft above Ordnance datum.

There are ample open spaces in all parts of the district.

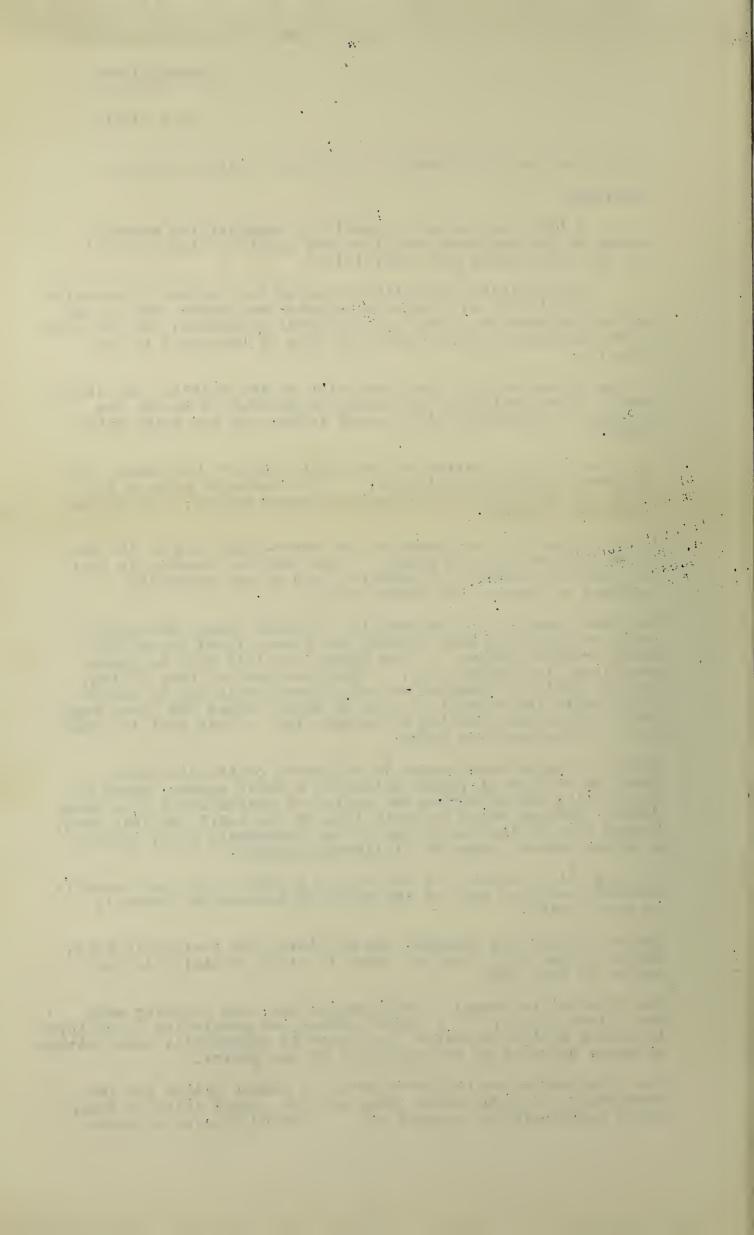
Near the village of Thames Ditton is a small common, known as Giggs Hill, and adjoining the hamlet of Weston Green is a large common, through which the main line of the L.S.W. Railway runs. Beyond this on the south side of the Portsmouth Road, there is a larger common, known as Littleworth Common.

In Long Ditton there is a Recreation ground, under the Council's control, and also part of the Surbiton Recreation ground is in this parish.

Esher also has two commons, one adjoining the Portsmouth Road, beyond Stoney Hill, and the other in close proximity to the hamlet of West End.

The District is largely a residential one, and contains many good class houses. A large part of the population is employed in London or its outskirts, but there is necessarily some cottage property occupied by the employees of the gentry.

The chief works are the Ferry Works in Thames Ditton for the manufacture of light motor cars, and the Royal Mills at Esher where bookbinding is carried on. There is also a bronze



factory in Thames Ditton. Only a portion of those employed in these factories reside in the district. In Long Ditton there are large pumping stations belonging to the Metropolitan Water Board.

The chief industry in Claygate is that of brick making.

None of these occupations have been found to have any mbad effect on the health of the workers.

VITAL STATISTICS.

The number of births registered during 1919 was 191, of which ten were illegitimate. The birth rate from this figure is 13.7. per 1000 persons living.

The deaths numbered 152 or a rate of 11.2 per 1000.

Among children under the age of one year 15 deaths occurred which gives a rate of 78 per 1000 births.

There were five among illegitimate children from a total of 10 births or a mortality of 50 per cent, which is very high.

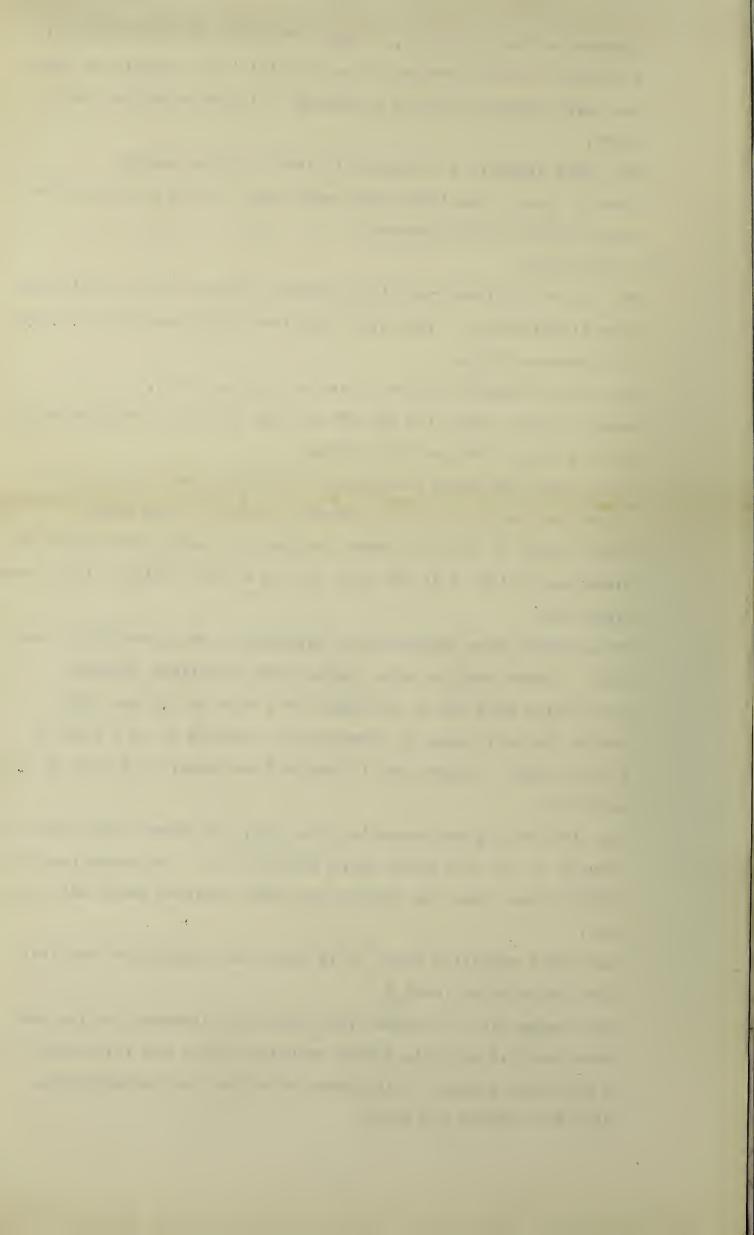
Three deaths of children under the age of 2 years were caused by diarrhoea, which is at the rate of 15 per 1000 births, also a very high rate.

Three deaths were attributed to diphtheria, or a rate of 0.2 per 1000. There were no other deaths from infectious disease. Five deaths were due to Influenza or a rate of 0.3 per 1000. Deaths from all forms of tuberculosis numbered 9, or a rate of 0.6 per 1000. There were 19 deaths from cancer or a rate of 1.4 per 1000.

The birth rate given above is a low one, and shows a drop from the average of the last three years which is 16. The death rate is slightly less than the average for three previous years which was 12.9.

The infant mortality rate, 78 is above the average for the last three years which is 67.5.

The average rate of deaths from infectious diseases for the same period was 0.5 which is larger than the figure for 1919 namely 0.2. In the table annexed I give these rates and the corresponding rates for England and Wales.

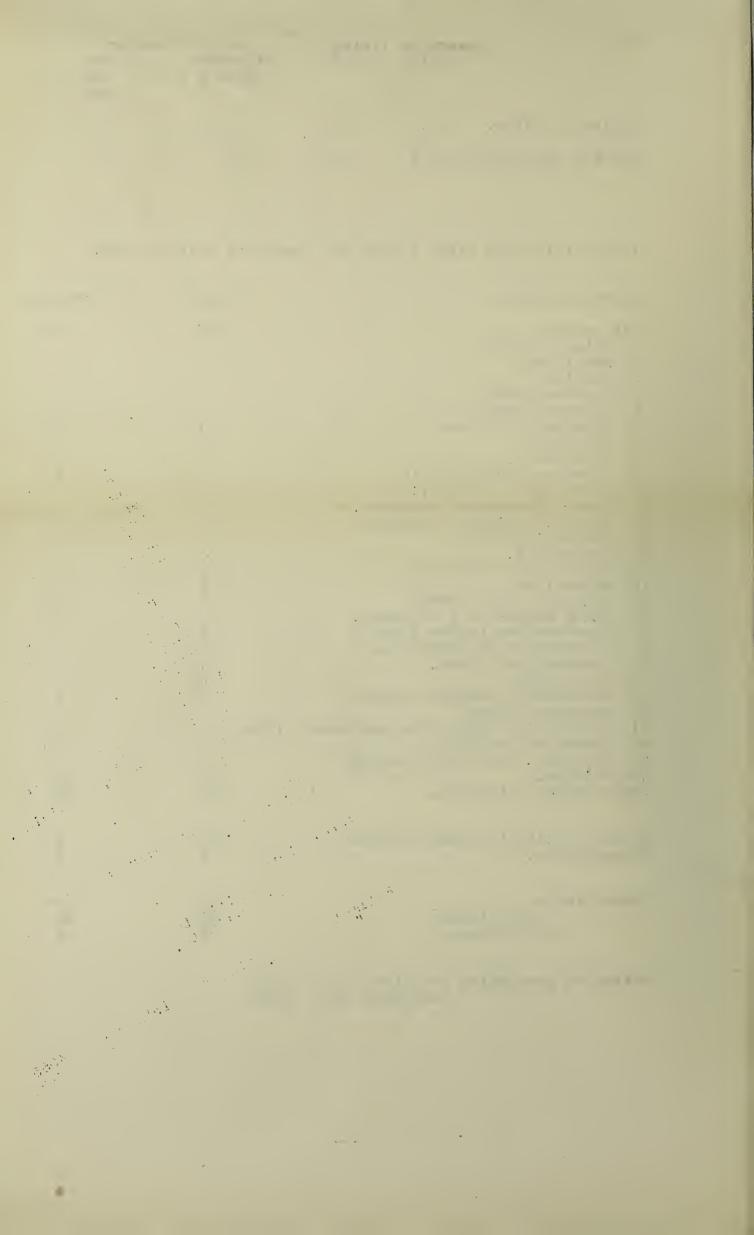


	per 1000 births	living deaths	per 1000 bir diarrhoea under 2 yrs.	ths under one year
England & Wales.	18,5	13.8	9.59	89
Esher & the Ditto	ns.13.7	11.2	15.	7 8

In the following table I give the causes of death and sex

Cause of death.	Males.	Females.
All causes. 1 Enteric Fever. 2 Small pox. 3 Measles. 4 Scarlet Fever.	76	76
5 Whooping Cough. 6 Diphtheria & Croup. 7 Influenza. 8 Erysipelas.	1 2	2 3
9 Pulmonary Tuberculosis. 10 Tuberculous meningitis.	6	2
11 Other tuberculous diseases. 12 Cancer, malignant disease. 13 Rheumatic Fever.	1 8	11
14 Meningitis. 15 Organic Heart Disease. 16 Bronchitis 17 Pneumonia (all forms) 18 Other respiratory diseases.	2 3 6	1 10 3 6 3
19 Diarrhoea &c (under 2 yrs.) 20 Appendicitis & Typhlitis. 21 Cirrhosis of liver. 22a Alcoholism.	1	1
22 Nephritis & Brights disease. 23 Puerperal Fever.	4	2
24 Parturition apart from puerperal. 25 Congenital debility, 26 Violence, apart from suicide. 27 Suicide. Other defined diseases.	fever, . 3 . 4 . 1 . 31	1 3 1 1 27
Deaths of infants under one year Illegitimate.	10 3	5 2
Total births Legitimate Illegitimate.	101 93 8	. 2 . 88 . 90

Estimated population for birth rate 14055 for death rate 13492,



SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT.

WATER. The supply of water is almost entirely derived from the Metropolitan Water Board. There are a very few isolated houses which are too far from tha water mains to obtain a supply and have wells. These have been inspected and precautions taken to ensure that the water obtained is pure.

RIVERS AND STREAMS. These include the river Mole, and its tributary the Ember, both of which have recently been placed under control of a special board. Both these streams are now kept in better order, but have never been liable to pollution.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE. Practically the whole of the houses in the district are connected to the sewers. These convey the sewage to the sewage farm situated in the lower part of Esher, where it is treated by precipitation and the effluent discharged into the Mole, after filtration over the land. The water-carriage system works well, and the system of sewers is ample for the district.

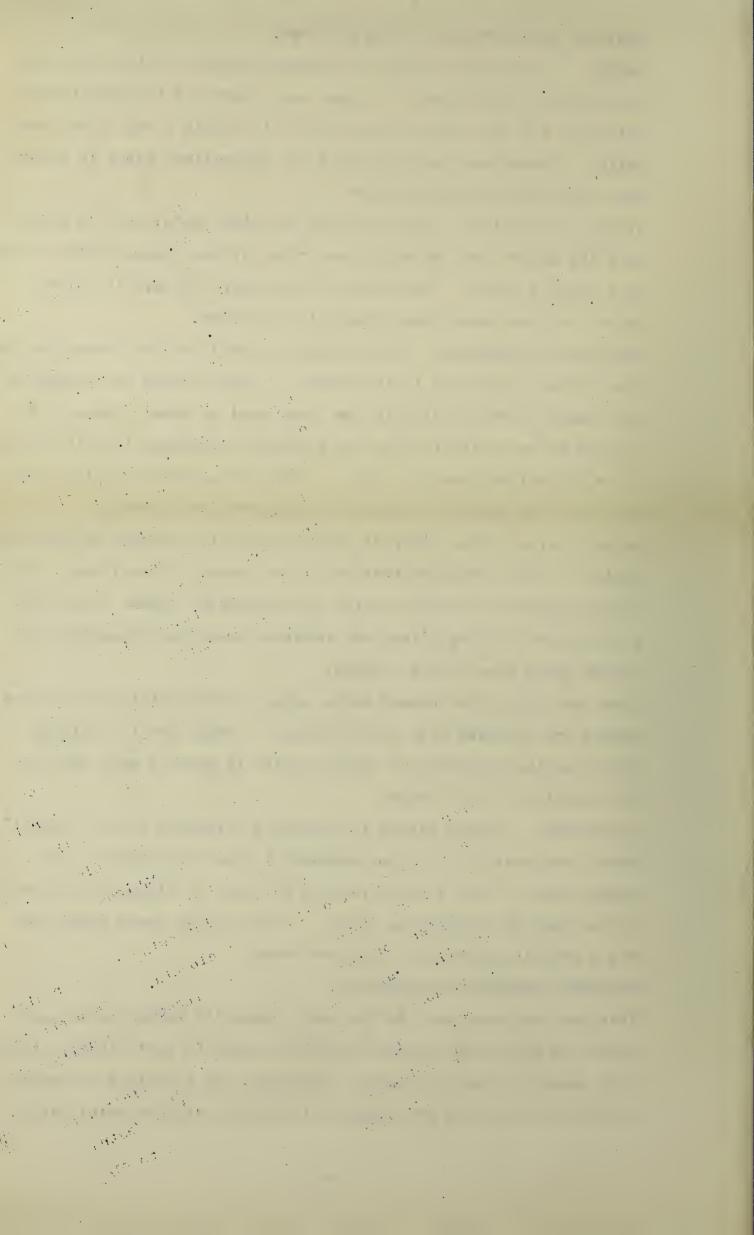
In most parts of the district surface water is conveyed by separate drains to the various watercourses, and thence to the Thames. The Rythe receives the surface water from Claygate, Thames Ditton and a large part of Long Ditton and requires occasional cleaning, but seldom gives rise to any trouble.

There are only a few houses which owing to their distance from the sewers are supplied with earth closets. These are in outlying parts and the cleansing of these closets is usually well done by the occupiers of the houses.

SCAVENGING. *House refuse is regularly collected by the council's carts, and most of it is now consumed in the destructor at the sewage farm. Only a small portion is taken to Claygate, and used in the work of brickmaking there. Practically every house now has a movable ashbin with a proper cover.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF DISTRICT.

This has been continued in the same systematic manner as in past years and many minor defects remedied, which if left without attention would in time have become nuisances, and injurious to health. Details of this work are supplied in full in the following table.



No. of inspections made, Notices served, Nuisances abated, and other Improvements effected during the year ending December 31st. 1919 under the Public Health Acts, exclusive of Inspections under the Housing, &c., Act. 1909.

Inspections made: -

Dwellings inspected under the Public Health Act.	833
Re-inspections arising out of the same, and visits to works in progress.	536
Inspections under the Factory and Workshops Act.	106
Slaughterhouses, Meat & other Foods.	136
Dairies Cowsheds and Milkshops.	157
Houses let in Lodgings.	26
Miscellaneous Inspections.	29
Notices served:-	
No. of Statutory Notices.	15
Informal written Notices,	187
Verbal Intimations.	97
Disinfecting:-	
No. of Premises disinfected.	99
Results of Inspections and Notices,	
Cottages cleansed, &c., throughout.	11
Rooms in ditto as required (No of houses)	124
Yard paving repairs.	3
Soil drains examined and tested	14
Soil drains partly or entirely relaid.	2
Soil drains repaired.	11
Blocked and choked drains cleared.	16
New Water Closets erected and fitted complete.	2
W. C's cleansed repaired, Etc.,	46
General house repairs (No of houses).	38

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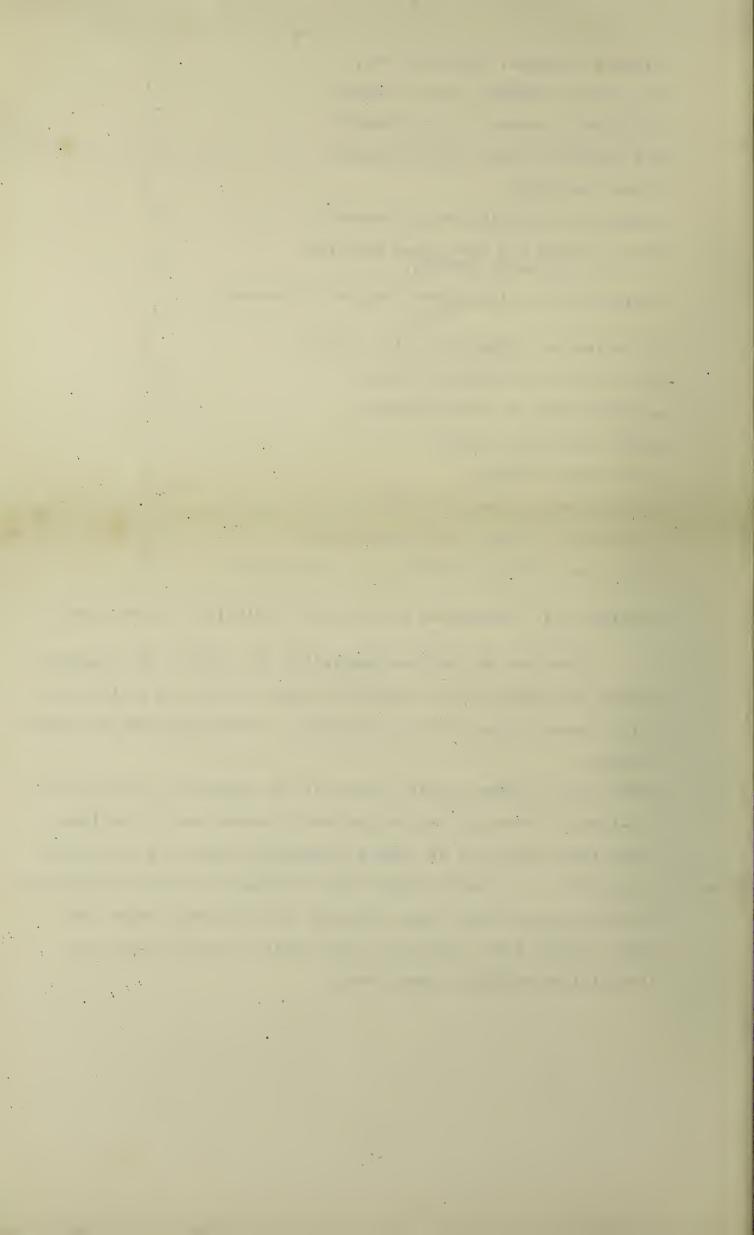
Windows enlarged, repaired, &c.,	14
Damp walls remedied (No. of houses).	21
Damp proof courses (No. of houses)	5
New floors to rooms (No. of houses)	4
Houses re-roofed	3
General roof repairs (No. of houses)	51
Eaves gutters and down pipes repaired (No. of houses).	34
Workrooms, &c., limewashed (Factory & Workshop Act.	17
Miscellaneous nuisances abated ditto.	9
New sanitary dust bins provided.	25
Accumulations of refuse removed.	3
Animal nuisances abated.	6
Overcrowding abated.	1
Miscellaneous nuisances abated	16
Complaints received and investigated.	47
Water Board Notices received and investigated.	27

Premises and Occupations which can be controlled by Bye-Laws

There are no bye-laws regulating the control of slaughterhouses, and there are no offensive trades carried on in the district hence it has not been necessary to adopt bye-laws for their control.

There are no Common Lodging Houses in the district, but there are bye-laws in force for the regulation of houses let in lodgings.

Under these there are 15 houses registered, which are kept under inspection. It has not been found necessary to issue any notices and take action under these bye-laws, as the powers under the Public Health Acts, have been found ample in dealing with any insanitation which has been found.



myself and the Sanitary Inspector, and always found in good sanitary condition. The water supply is derived from the Metropolitan Water Board, and the drainage of each school is connected to the

The following is a summary of the work I have done in connection with schools in 1919.

Number	of	visits to schools for general purposes.	4
11	11	special visits for infectious disease	7
11	11	schools closed for infectious diseases.	0
11	11	special visits to school for contagious diseases.	0
11	†1	home visits for contagious diseases.	0
11	tt	children examined by request of S.A.O.	3
n	tt	certificates given for S.A. purposes.	1
11	11	reports on structural or other defects.	0

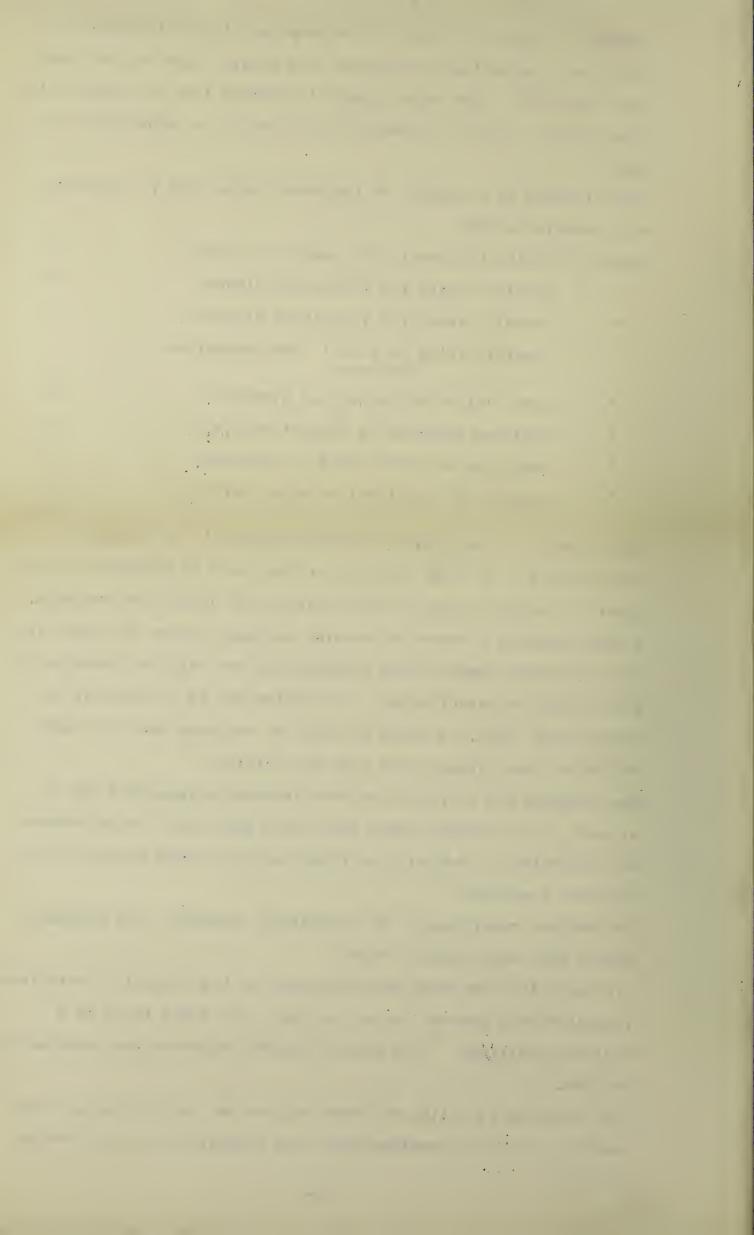
MILK SUPPLY. The quality of milk supplied is on the whole satisfactory. A large quantity of that used is produced in the district, and the means of distribution and supply are adequate. I have received a return of samples analysed during the year, in which thirteen samples were examined and one only was found to be adulterated or deteriorated. No action had to be taken as to tuberculous milk, as there has been no evidence that any cows suffering that disease were used for milking.

The cowsheds and Dairies have been frequently inspected and on account of the various works which have been done for improvement and cleansing of them will be found in the annexed report of the Sanitary Inspector.

The various requirements of the Dairies, cowsheds, and Milkshops Orders have been complied with.

All the milch cows have been inspected by the Council's veterinary inspector each quarter during the year, and found to be in a healthy condition. The average number inspected and reported on was 384.

The following is a list of these who are on the register as Cowkeepers, and whose premises have been regularly inspected during the year.



Mrs. Hanson,

Mrs. Povis Adams.

Mr. Ben. Keen.

Mr. H.P. Roberts.

Mr. T.S. Cooper,

Miss Sarah Taylor.

Mr. J.A. Keen.

Mr. S.H. Goodrich.

Mr. H. Wesley.

Mr. Geo. Scott.

Mr. H. Broom.

Mr. R. Price,

Mr. H. Stent.

Mr. Chas. Moon.

Mr. J.P. Roberts.

Mr. E. Skeffington.

Mr. R. Cobb.

Mr. E.A. Almond.

Mr. John Taylor.

Ember Lane, Thames Ditton, (Farm temporarily unoccupied).

Ember Court Road, Thames Ditton.

Manor Farm. do.

Pound Farm, Lower Green, Esher.

Couchmore Farm, Thames Ditton.

St. Lecnard's Farm, Thames Ditton.

Manor Farm, Manor Rd, Thames Ditton.

Upper Couchmore, Manor Rd, Thames Ditton.

The Chestnuts, Manor Road, Thames Ditton.

St, Leonards Cottage, near St.Leonard's Farm, (Cowsheds at The Waffrens, Long Ditton.)

Hill Farm, Ditton Hill.

Green Farm, Claygate.

Slough Farm, Claygate.

Vale Farm Claygate.

Horringdon Farm, Claygate.

Manor Farm, Woodstock Lane, Claygate.

The Grove, Esher.

Copseham Farm, Esher,

Beazley Farm, Claygate. (Near Oaken Lane Railway Bridge).

LIST OF REGISTERED MILKSELLERS.

Mr. J.P. Roberts

Mrs. H. Lay.

Mr. E. Tekell.

Messrs. Roberts & Sons.

Mr. Chas Moon.

Mr. E. Broad.

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11

Mr. A. B. Hunt.

A.I, Albany Crescent, Claygate.

The Stores, Lower Green, Esher.

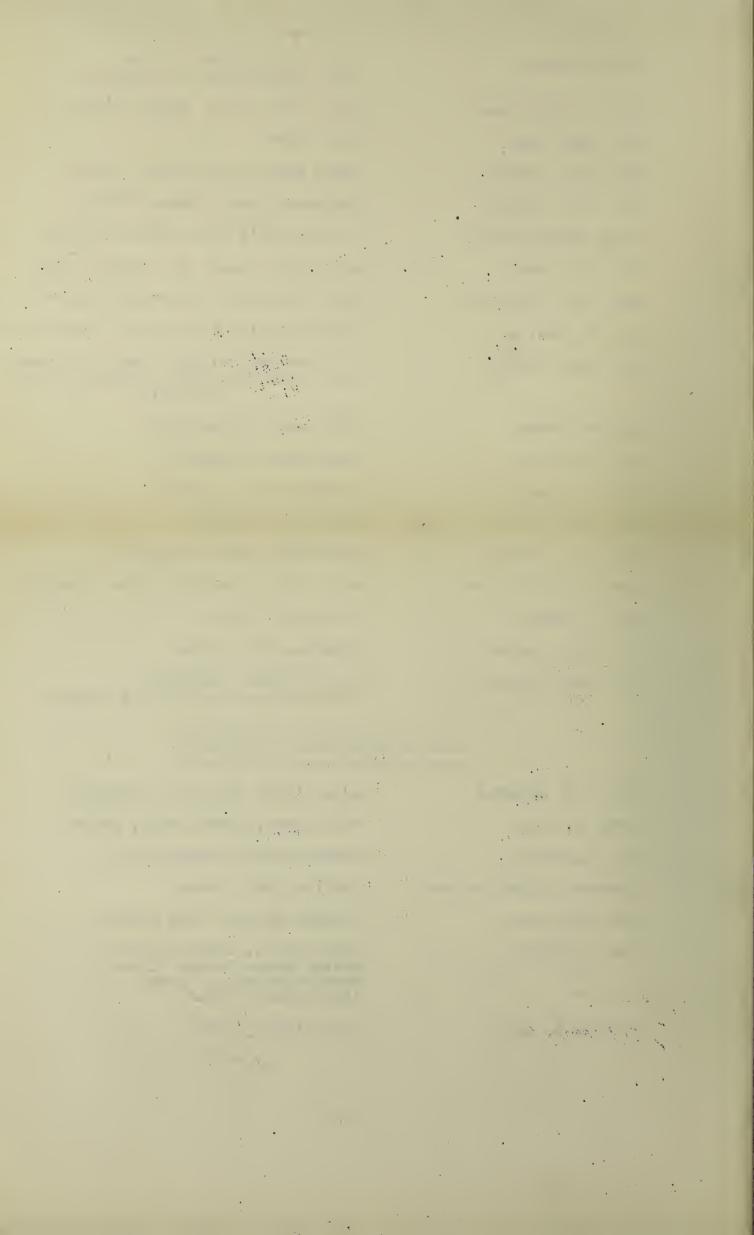
Summer Road, Themes Ditton.

Station Road, Esher.

Windows Bridge, Long Ditton.

High Street, Thames Ditton. Weston Green Thames Ditton Portsmouth Road, Esher. High Street, Esher.

High Street, Esher.



OTHER FOODS. Several instances of food which on inspection was found to be unfit for use occurred during the year, and the necessary action taken to ensure that they were not used. All places where food is exposed for sale or under preparation for use have been inspected frequently, and found to be kept in good condition.

The bakehouses have been under inspection and found to be well kept and the necessary cleansing required under the Factories and Workshops Acts was regularly carried out.

While the meat supply was under control a slaughterhouse in Esher was used as a centre of distribution, and on one occasion I was called to inspect the carcase of an animal which had been suffering from a disease which I judged to be tubercular, and which subsequently was confirmed on microscopic examination. The carcase was condemned and disposed of in such a way as to preclude its being used for food.

There is no public abbattoir in the district. Most of the meat sold is procured in the London market, and inspected there before delivery in the district.

the second of th And the Committee of th Market State of the Control of the Second State of the Second Stat The disease that was most prevalent during the year was scarlet fever. Sixty two cases were notified on a rate of 4.5 per 1000 in a population of 13773. This is an increase on the rate for 1918, which was 1.47. It will be seen from the tables that the cases were spread over

It will be seen from the tables that the cases were spread over the year, the two heaviest returns being in September and October. It was not possible to trace any definite connection between the cases. It was most probably spread among children but there was no evidence to prove that the infection was carried by means of schools.

The number of cases of diphtheria namely 28 was less than in the previous year, and gives a rate of 2.0 per 1000 in 1918 this rate was 2.33. More than half the cases were notified during November and December and have proved to be the commencement of an outbreak, which was largely spread through the school.

There was one case of what proved to be Paratyphoid fever B. on investigation. I was unable to trace the origin of the illness, but in course and history there was no doubt as to its nature.

The thirteen cases of malaria were all in men who had seen service abroad during the war, and the majority of them had contracted the disease in Salonika. There were no cases that had been infected locally.

The case of Abterior poliomyllitis was a severe one, but has made a good recovery. The patient was one of a family of three and none of the other children were ill, and it was impossible to trace any source of infection.

Hospital isolation and treatment were provided for 15 of the 28 cases of diphtheria, and for 50 of the 62 cases of scarlet fever. Two cases of erysipelas were also removed to hospital and one of malaria.

All the other patients were isolated at home.

The premises were disinfected by means of a formaline spray as soon after the removal of the patient or on the termination of the illness.

In the case of children attending school they were excluded until danger of infection was past.

Diphtheria antitoxin has been supplied on request to doctors in several instances. The chief difficulty has been in ensuring that it is given early in the disease, and also in large enough doses. I think it would be a good rule if it were given to every doubtful case in which a swab is made to clear up the diagnosis.

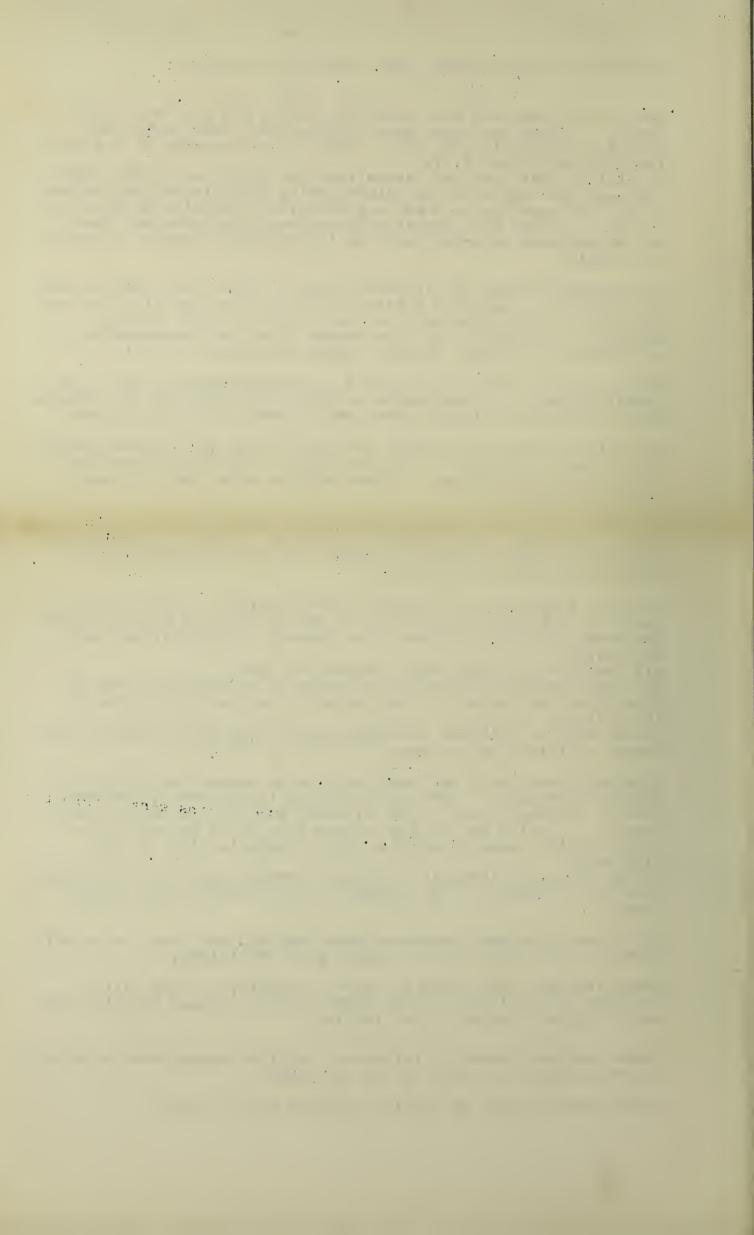
It is also very difficult to trace "carrier cases" and I feel sure that the incidence of the disease is very largely due to such cases.

All cases of primary pneumonia were visited, and found to be well nursed on the whole, and in fairly good conditions,

There are district nurses in Esher, Claygate, and Long Ditton, and beds are available in the Thames Ditton Cottage Hospital for cases from all parts of the district.

There were many cases of Influenza, and five deaths were attributed to this cause, or a rate of 0.3. per 1000.

There were 27 cases of measles notified and no deaths.



There were 16 cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis and two of Tuberculosis of other parts notified. I believe that most cases are reported, though I occasionally receive an intimation that a patient has been admitted to a hospital or sanatorium without having received any notification from one of the local doctors. In such cases the patient may have gone idirect to the Hospital, and not have been seen locally first.

All cases that have been notified have been visited, and the houses inspected, and any defects or nuisances remedied.

After the death or removal I have generally been able to arrange for the disinfection, but in some cases I do not receive

arrange for the disinfection, but in some cases I do not received information until some days have elapsed after the removal of the case, and even then I have offered to have disinfection done, and usually the offer has been accepted.

Smallpox. No cases of this disease have occurred during the past year. There is still a general neglect of vaccination among a section of the people, which in the event of an outbreak of smallpox will prove a serious menace. I have obtained a statement from the :vaccination officer of the Kingston Union which shows how widely exemption is granted, and how large a number of children are unprotected in consequence.

Vaccination Return for the District for the year ending December 31st 1919.

No. of Births registered	186
No. of children vaccinated. No. of postponements by medical	129
certificate.	4
No. left district.	4
No. of exemptions.	39
No. not yet accounted for.	1
No. died unvaccinated.	8
No. prosecuted.	1
	Military Military Mary Control of State

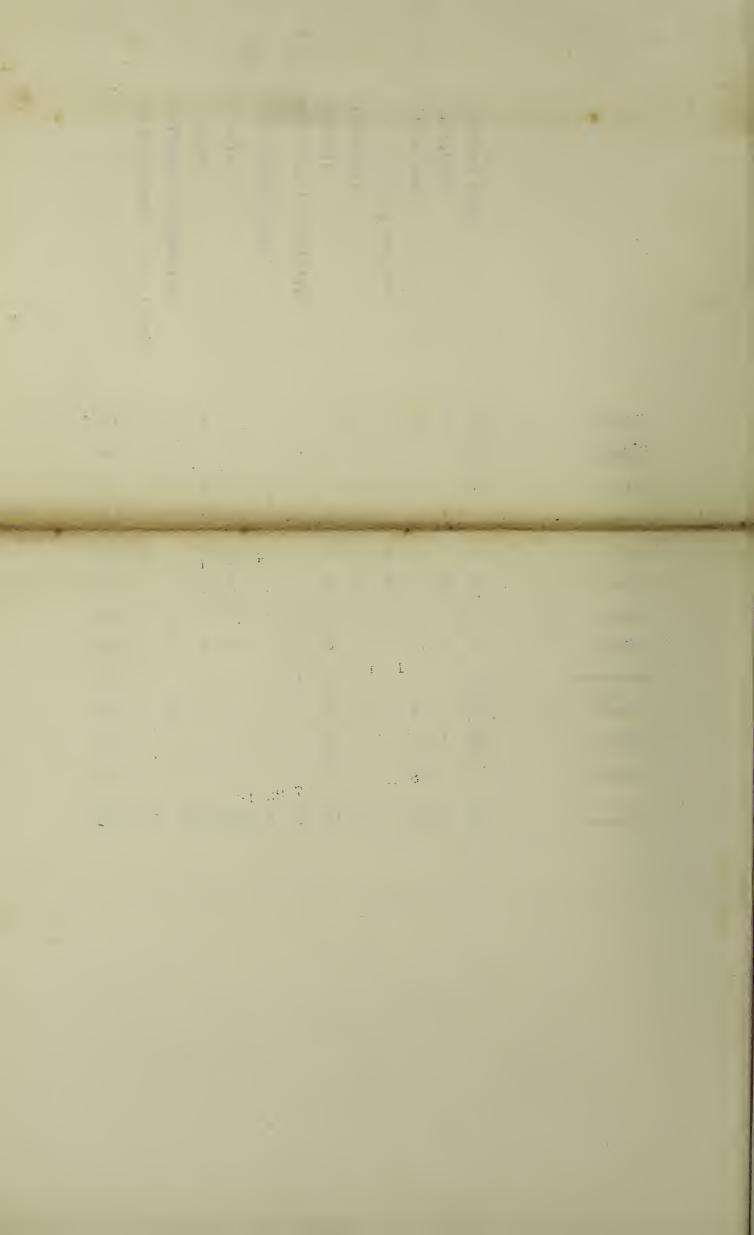
Total. 186.

I give two tables showing the number of cases of infectious disease that have been notified during the year, and the number notified each month.

In the second table the cases are further classified in ages, and districts, and the numbers of patients removed to hospital also are given. I have not given particulars as to cases of measles.

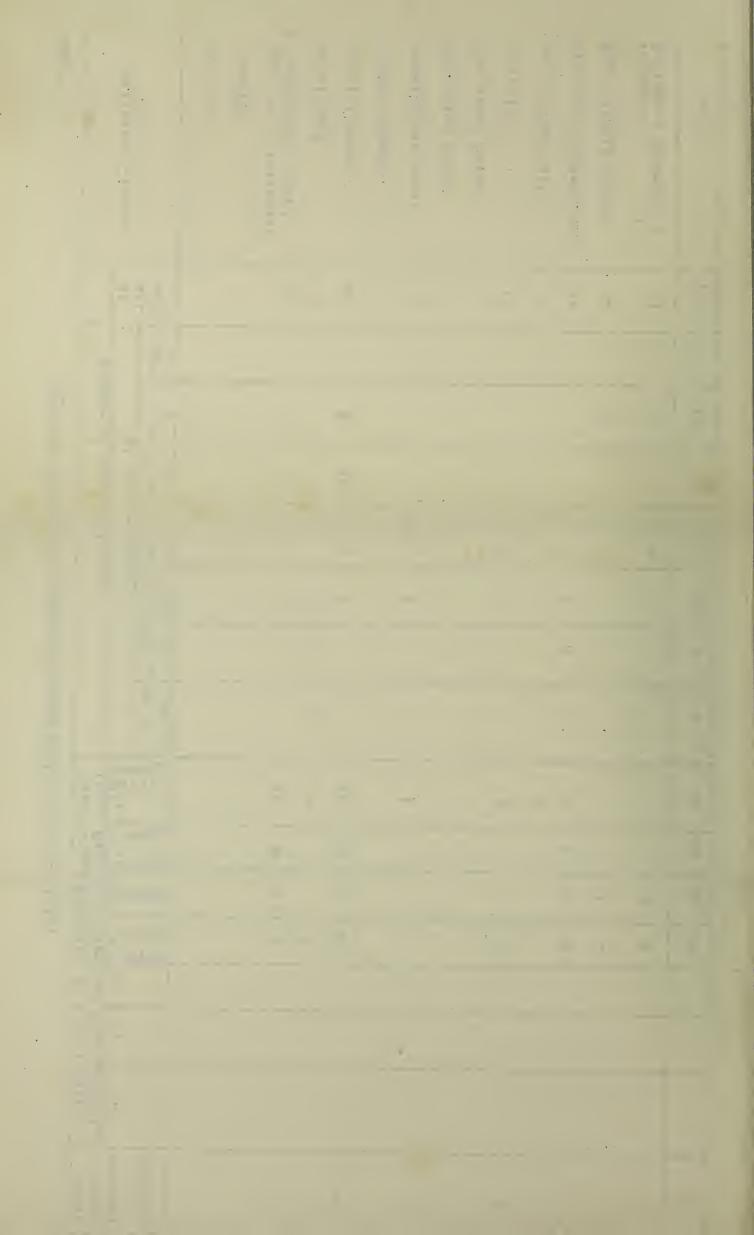
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	Scarlet Fever	Erysipelas	Diphtheria	Influenzal Pneumonia	Pneumonia	Walaria	Anterior Poliomyelitis	Paratyphoid Fever	Weasles	Rubella	Pulmonary Tuberculosis	Tuberculosis, other forms,	
January	2	1	2						2	4	1		12
February	3								3				6
March	7		2	5	1					1	5		81
April					1	1			4	6		1	13
May	4			1		3			2	5		1	16
June	6	1		1	1	3			4	4	1		50
July	9					1			5	1	2		18
August	4	1	2			1			7	1	2		18
September	10					1	1	1					13
October	12		4		1	1					5		23
November	4	1	5			1							11
December	1.	1	12		1	1							16
Totals	62	4	28	6	5	13	1	1 2	7 2	2 1	6	2	187.



CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1919.

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Number of Cases Notified (e.g. Parish or Ward) of the district. At At At Ages - Years & S. 6. 7.	Hospital			gate	Cla		1	Tha	-	45	80	15	Cn	101	فضعون فتنقص	Ages		
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	O: H	ocality istrict.	0 -	in of	tifie r War	lsh Se		Tota (e.g			ied	1		1	Nu			



There is one Infant welfare centre at present in the district which meets weekly in Long Ditton. The doctor appointed under the County Council attends here each alternate meeting and sees expentant mothers and the children. I make it a practice to be present on those days on which the doctor is not there and see any cases about which there is any difficulty, and, as often as I can, give short addresses to mothers on hygiene in as simple form as possible. Arrangements are made for the supply of Glaxo and Virol at reduced prices, and orders are given for the supply of milk at cost or reduced prices. Information is given to the health visitor of every birth notified and she visits each one that seems to be in need of supervision. A small book of advice to mothers is sent to each mother as soon as possible after the receipt of the notification of the birth.

Children from the schools are also seen at this centre and advice given as to treatment.

The work of the centre is very greatly helped by a committee of ladies who attend most regularly and whose devoted help and interest is of the greatest value.

The only case of polio-myelitis notified was not in the class who require assistance from the sanitary authority, and the child is recovering the use of the damaged muscles.

Arrangements have been made to open another centre in Claygate on Jan. 1st in the present year, and it is hoped that the work there will be as helpful as in the centre at Long Ditton.

The following details have been supplied by the Health Visitor.

Report of work done during the year ending Dec. 31st 1919.

I Maternity and Infant Welfare.

First visits to Mother and Baby. Subsequent visits. Total first attendance of expectant.	122 809
mothers.	12
Average attendance at the centre of mothers	
and babies.	27
II In connection with schools Visits to Impetigo cases " " cases of tonsils & adenoids. " " cases of scabies. " " cases of defective eyesight " " Schools.	20 12 3 4 77
III. Visits to cases of Tuberculosis	20

SANITARY ADMINISTRATION.

There is one whole time sanitary inspector, a copy of whose report is annexed to this.

The Hospital available for the treatment is at Tolworth in the district of Surbiton. It is roughly about three miles from the centre of this district, and affords accommodation for cases of scarlet fever, diphtheria, and enteric fever, and some of erysipelas.

Smallpox cases would have to be removed to the Surrey County Smallpox Hospital at Clandon.

Cases of tuberculosis are usually sent to one of the sanatoria in Surrey.

There are no local Acts of Parliament which have to be administered, but the following adoptive Acts are in force:-

The infectious Disease Prevention Act 1890
The Public Health Amendment Act, 1890.
The Public Health Acts Amendment Act. 1907.
Parts II, III, IV, V, VI. and certain sections comprised in Part X.

The Council have arrangements made with the Clinical Research Association for the examination of swabs from suspected cases of diphtheria, or blood in cases of enteric fever, and sputum in doubtful cases of tuberculosis, and for chemical examinations. of water etc.,

The following is a summary of the examinations made, and the results obtained.

Specimens examined for	Positive	Negative.
diptheria.	17	37
Specimens examined for		
tubercle bacilli	3	10
Specimen examined for		
enteric fever.	0	1

HOUSING.

1 General Housing Conditions.
1 Number of houses - total number Census 1911 2753

> 1204. " under £16 rental " from £16 to £26 per annum. 427.

These figures have been obtained from the books 1914 but are substantially accurate at the present time, as hardly, any new houses have been built for the working classes. and a none are in course of erection at the moment.

2. Population. Census 1911 Estimated 1920 12518 13773.

It is not possible to give any forecast as to changes in the population, but so far as present knowledge goes there is not any increase or diminution likely to take place at present.

3. (a) There is certainly no excess of houses, nout there are waiting lists of persons who want houses at the offices of all house agents.
(b) The Council's plans for building about 110 houses for

working men are rapidly approaching completion, and it is hoped that shortly the work of building may be commenced.

II Overcrowding.

l, Extent. The only available evidence at the present time is that there are many more houses occupied by members of more than one family. There are also many cases of married sons or daughters living on with their parents for want of house accommodation.

2. Causes. This arises from the fact that during the last six years no houses have been built which are suitable

for working people.

3. The only measure that can be taken to deal with this difficulty is that of building new houses, and this the Council is endeavouring to do.

4. No cases of overcrowding have been found that necessitated taking any other action beyond sending a preliminary notice asking for the abatement.

III Fitness of Houses.

1. (a) General standard of housing.

This is very good on the whole as most of the cottage property is modern or fairly so.
In nearly all parts cottages have at least gardens in front and at the back, and in many instances are surrounded by gardens.

There are ample open spaces in all parts of the district

(b) The defects generally found are those arising from dampness of walls and floors either due to defective roofs, or absence of damp proof courses in the walls or defective eaves guttering and down pipes.

Other defects are chiefly those which arise from the neglect to do repairs, such as defective flooring, broken windows, and sash lines.

2. As a rule it is not difficult to get repairs done on

the service of a notice under the Public Health Acts.

In no case has it been necessary to take any legal proceedings beyond the issue of Statutory Notices.

3. Difficulties arise chiefly from the fact that as soon as a landlord receives an order to do work to render an unfit house fit, he asks that a closing order may be made, without regard to the fact that it is only necessary to do repairs. In some cases where houses have been closed and afterwards rendered fit, the new tenants have been of quite a different class from those who previously occupied the house. In this way some houses are lost for occupation by working class persons.

Another difficulty which is probably universal is that when a house is closed by an order it is practically impossible for the occupants to find another to move into.

4. The conditions, so far as they effect housing, as regards water supply, closet accommodation, and refuse disposal are those which arise when two families are living in a house which has only been designed for one family. In these cases it has been possible hitherto by frequent inspection to keep the houses in fair sanitary state.

There is of course always the probability that unless circumstances improve these houses may become dangerously overcrowded.

IV, Unhealthy Areas. None:

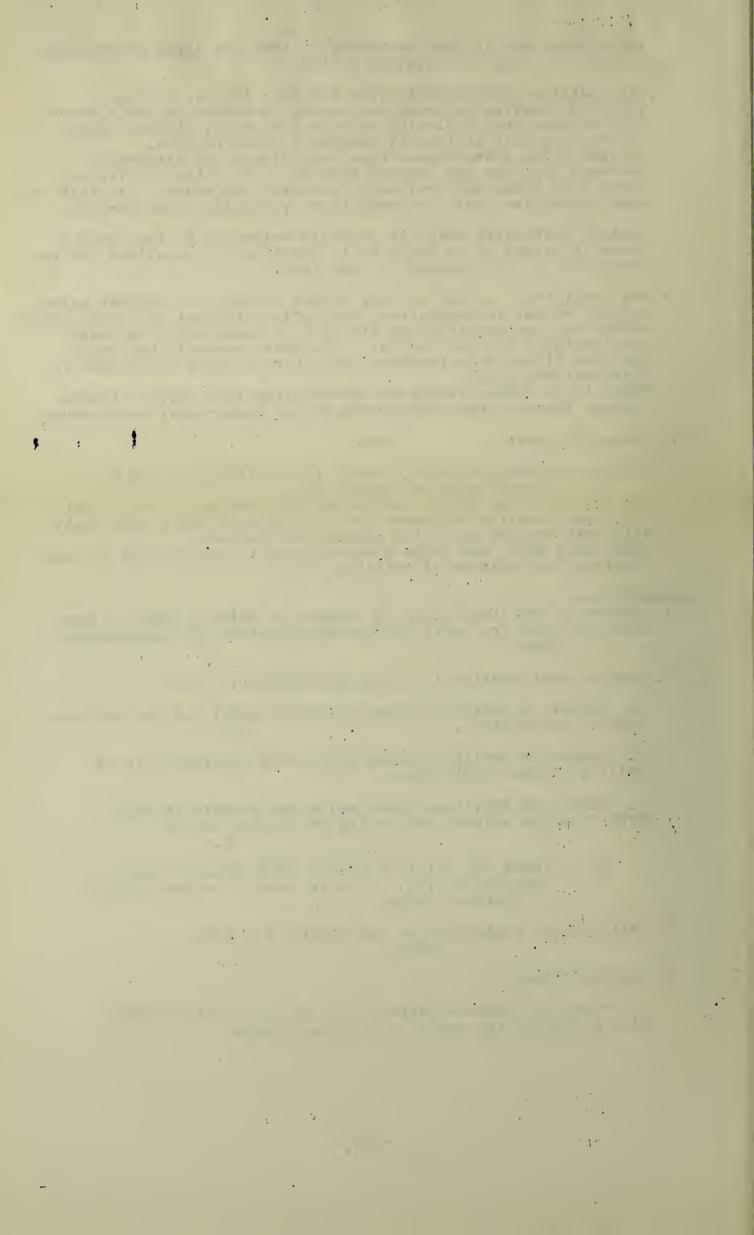
V, Byelaws relating to house, houses let in lodgings, and to tents, vans and sheds etc.,

The only bye-laws which come under this heading in the district are those relating to houses let in lodgings, and I have dealt with this subject under the heading of bye-laws.

These work well, and there does not seem to be any need for new bye-laws, or revision of existing ones.

Appendicices

- 1. Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which complaints were made that they are unfit for human habitation, by householders None.
- 2. Action under Section 17 of the Housing Act. 1909.
 - a. Number of dwelling-houses inspected under and for the purpose of the section.
 - b. Number of dwelling-houses which were considered to be unfit for human habitation.
 - c. Number of dwelling-houses which the fefects in which were remedied without the making of closing Orders E.
 - N.B. There are still 14 houses which have not yet been dealt with, but will have to be the subject of further action.
- 3. Action under Section 28 of the Housing Act 1919.
 None.
- 4. Closing Orders.
 - a, Number of representations made to the local authority with a view to the making of closing orders.



- o. Number of closing orders made
- c. Number of dwelling-houses in regard to which closing were determined on the houses being made fit for human habitation.

(closing orders made in 1918).

- 5. Demolition Orders. None.
- 6. Number of dwelling houses demolished voluntarily.

None.

- 7. Obstructive buildings. None.
- 8. The staff engaged in housing work consists of myself, and the Sanitary Inspector.

I have made the actual inspections, and the necessary reinspections have been made by the Inspector, who has had assistance from men from the Surveyor's department in making tests of drains.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS ACT.

I give a schedule of the work done under this act, including the number and description of the places registered under the Act.

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DETAILS OF WORK done under the Factory and Workshops Act during the year ending December 31st 1919.

No. and description of premises on the Register:-

Factories	10
Factory Bakehouse.	1
Retail Bakehouses	7
Motor Garages.	7
Workshops. (Miscellaneous)	27
Workplaces. (Other than Workshops)	19
Workshop Laundries.	8
Cottage Laundries.	21
Workrooms (Dressmakers & Tailors.)	18
Total on Register.	118
No. of Inspections during the year.	106
Notices of occupation sent by H.M. Inspector of Factories.	4
Notices served (uring the year:-	
Statutory Notices.	0
Informal written Notices.	ક
No. of verbal intimations.	17
Result of Notices & Intimations:-	
Workshops, cleansed, limewashed. etc.	17
Lavatories cleansed, repaired, etc.,	3
W. C. Flushing Tanks repaired	3
Paving repairs (Factory Floor)	1
Miscellaneous nuisances abated.	2

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I have great pleasure in tendering my thanks for the kind and cordial help which I have always received at the hands of the Chairman and Members of the Council and Public Health Committee, and for great assistance from my colleagues on the Council's staff.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,
Your obedient servant,
A. Senior, M.B. D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health.

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Council Offices, Thames Ditton,

January 1920.

To the Chairman and Members of the Urban District Council of Esher and the Dittons.

Gentlemen,

I beg to submit to you my Sixteenth Annual Report giving details of the various inspections carried out, Notices served, Nuisances abated and Improvements effected during the year ending December 31st, 1919.

The necessary attention has been given to the provisions in the General Orders of the Local Government Board and the Public Health Act as to systematic inspection of the District at certain periods and also at intervals as occasion may require, in order to ascertain the nature of nuisances and defects requiring attention and abatement.

The total number of inspections and re-visits made during the year for general sanitary purposes amounted to 1,948, and included inspections under the Housing, &c., Act, Public Health Acts, Factory and Workshops Act, Dairy and Cowshed Regulations, &c.

As will be seen in the Schedule at the end of this Report, the result has been the abatement of a considerable number of Nuisances and the carrying out of many useful Improvements.

The details of all Inspections made and the results have been placed upon record for future reference.

THE PAVING OF BACK YARDS, SIDE PASSAGES, Etc.

It has not been possible to make much progress with this class of work during the past year. In the case of Nos. 1 to 4, Kembles Cottages, Thames Ditton, dealt with under the Provisions of the

and the second s Housing, &c., Act, paving and surface drainage were properly provided.

During the six years ending December, 1915, about 600 back yards and spaces in connection with small properties.

Since the date mentioned, a continuation of this class of work has been unavoidably interrupted, but with the return of more normal conditions in the way of labour and materials, efforts will be made to get paving provided where the same is necessary.

INSPECTION OF DWELLINGS UNDER THE HOUSING, &c., ACT.

During the year 23 Dwelling Houses were Scheduled and inspected iunder the provisions of the above Act, as follows:-

Nos. 1 and 2, Warwick Square Thames Ditton.	2
Nos. 1 to 9, Malt Cottages, Weston Green Road.	9
Nos. 1 to 3, Boyle Cottages, Ashley Road.	3
Regent House, Giggs Hill.	1
Giggs Hill Cottage	1
Honeysuckle Cottage, Giggs Hill.	ı
No. 2, Elizabeth Cottages, Queen's Road.	ı
Nos. 1 to 5, Rythe Bridge Cottages, Hare Lane.	5
Total Inspected.	23
Total Inspected.	20

In connection with the above properties a considerable amount of sanitary works and improvements of the usual kind remain to be dealt with as from the close of the year under review.

Substantial repairs and improvements have been carried out in connection with the following:-

Nes. 1 to 4 Kembles Cottages, Thames Ditton (Inspected during 1918).	4
Nos. 1 & 2, Warwick Square, Thames Ditton	2
	6

All particulars of the inspections have been duly entered into the books provided for the purpose.

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PRIVATE HOUSE DRAINAGE.

The	number	of	private	hou	ıse	dre	ins	examined	and	tested	
during	the yea	ar s	amounted	to	30,	as	foll	LOWS:-			

By authority from the Council in connection with inspections made under the Housing, &c., Act.	21
By authority upon complaint of nuisance after infectious illness or for other reasons:	9
No. of premises at which soil drains were either partly or wholly re-laid.	6
No. of new surface drains provided	4
No. of soil drains repaired.	12
No. of blocked and choked drains cleared.	16

THE DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILKSHOPS ORDER, 1885.

At the close of the year there were 23 persons registered within the District under the above order, occupying 28 premises, divided as follows:-

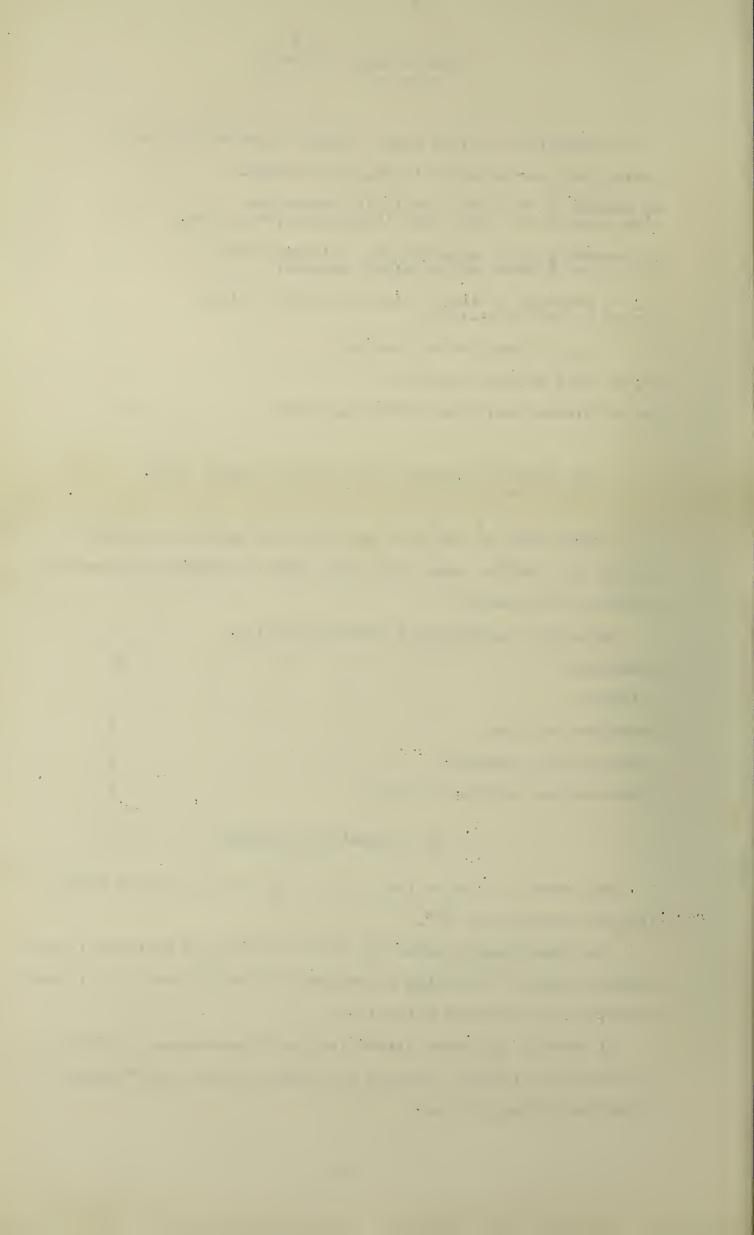
Cowkeeper, Dairyman and Purveyor of Milk.	1
Cowkeepers	13
Dairymen	9
Purveyors of Milk.	3
Cowkeeper and Dairyman.	1
Cowkeeper and purveyor of Milk.	l·

No of premises occupied.	28

The number of inspections made at the above premises during the year amounted to 157.

The requirements under the Order relating to periodical limewashing, general cleansing and removal of refuse have at all times received the necessary attention.

At four of the Farms alterations and improvements consisting of repairs to floors, drainage and other matters have received attention during the year.



Owing to Government control of the Meat Trade, the preparing and dressing of animals for food has been confined to one Slaughter-house (at Esher Green). This has been used as a distributing centre for the District.

The place has been frequently inspected and has at all times been kept clean and free from accumulations of offal and refuse.

The shops and premises at which various foods are stored, prepared or exposed for sale have been very frequently inspected to ensure the observance of proper conditions of cleanliness.

During the year many applications have been received from shopkeepers for articles of food to be inspected at their premises, with the view of accertaining whether the articles which they named were sound and fit for human consumption, or whether the same were unsound, unsaleable or otherwise unfit.

In all cases the necessary inspections were made and various articles of food which were judged to be unfit or unsaleable were certified accordingly and dealt with in an appropriate manner.

BAKEHOUSES.

The Bakehouses in the District, seven in number have been regularly visited and inspected during the year. By the Factory and Workshops Act, the walls and ceilings of all bakehouses have to be cleansed and limewashed every six months and this has been done in all cases.

THE ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS.

The sanitary appliances and lavatories at these schools have been inspected at frequent intervals. I am quite satisfied that every care has been taken by those responsible to keep the places at all times in a proper condition of cleanliness.

DISINFECTION OF PREMISES, BEDDING, ETC.

During the year, rooms, bedding and clothing atc., at 99 premises where infectious diseases occurred were disinfected in accordance with the directions of your Medical Officer of Health, the work being carried out either after the recovery of infected patients who were nursed in their own homes, or immediately after the cases were removed to the Isolation Hospital or a Sanatorium, and in some cases after the death of the patients.

The disinfections were carried out in connection with the following cases:-

After	Scarlet Fever.	58
Do	Diphtheria.	20
Do	Cancer.	7
Do	Tuberculosis.	õ
Do	Miscellaneous.	9

Total of premises, &c, disinfected. 99.

COLLECTION OF HOUSEHOLD REFUSE, &c.

The weekly collection of ashes and household refuse is carried out by the Surveyor's Department and continues to give general satisfaction. The few complaints received as to non-collection were promptly investigated and dealt with.

It has been necessary in 29 cases to require Owners or Occupiers to provide sanitary dust bins to replace those missing, worn out or otherwise defective. Of the 29 appliances provided II were provided after the issue of Statutory Notices and the remainder after the service of preliminary Notices.

Trade refuse and other material which cannot be classified as strictly household is collected at a small charge as a matter of convenience to shopkeepers and others who wish it.

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COMPLAINTS OF INSANITATION.

Forty seven complaints relating to nuisances have been received at these Offices during the year, as follows:-

Defective sanitary fittings.	5
Smells from drains, &c.	7
Animals improperly kept.	7
Blocked drains.	4
Leaky roofs.	4
Insufficient dust bins.	4
Overcrowding.	3
Dilapidations, &c.	4
Miscellaneous.	9
Total of complaints received.	47

These complaints were investigated as received, and where found to be of a gendine nature, were dealt with in a suitable manner.

PUBLIC MORTUARY.

During the year there have been 13 bodies deposited in the Thames Ditton Mortuary for the following purposes:-

Post mortem and Inquest. 10

Awaiting burial.

This Mortuary has at all times/maintained in an efficient condition for the purpose intended.

NOTICES FROM WATER BOARD.

Twenty seven Notices have been received from the Metropolitan Water Board, stating that the water supply had been withdrawn from various houses and premises for reasons stated. The Notices were investigated with the least possible delay in order to ensure that no house was occupied without a proper and sufficient water supply,

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SCHEDULE SHOWING THE TOTAL NUMBER OF INSPECTIONS MADE AND NOTICES SERVED.

INSPECTIONS:-

Inspections and re-visits under the Public Health Act.	1369
Do under the Housing, &c., Act.	125
Do under the Factory and Workshops Act.	106
Meat and other Foods.	136
Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops.	157
Houses let in Lodgings.	26
Miscellaneous lnspections.	29
Total of Inspections.	1948
NOTICES SERVED:-	
Statutory Notices.	29
Notices of entry to examine drains.	22
No. of informal written Notices.	187
Verbal Intimations.	97
SCHEDULE OF NUISANCES ABATED, IMPROVEMENTS. ETC;-	
Dwelling houses cleansed and re-decorated throughout	17
Ditto partly (Rooms as required (No of houses.)	124
Yards paved.	4
Yard paving repairs.	4
Soil drains examined and tested.	30
Soil drains entirely or partly re-laid.	6
Soil drains repaired.	12
Blocked and choked drains cleared	16
New surface drains provided.	4
Rain water pipes disconnected and trapped.	4
New W.C's erected and fitted complete.	6
W. C's cleansed, repaired, etc.,	52.

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New scullery sinks and repairs.	4
General house repairs (No. of houses)	42
Windows enlarged, repaired, &c., (No. of houses)	20
Damp walls remedied (No of houses)	81
Damp proof courses provided (No of houses)	9
New floors provided (No. of houses.)	8
Houses re-roofed.	7
General roof repairs, &c., (No. of houses)	53
Eaves gutters and down spouts repaired, &c. (No. of houses).	40
Limewashing, &c. under the Factory and Workshops Act.	17
Miscellaneous nuisances abated Do.	9
New sanitary dust bins provided.	29
Accumulations of refuse removed.	7
Nuisances caused by animals abated.	6
Overcrowding abated.	1
No. of complaints received and investigated.	47
Miscellaneous nuisances abated.	16
Water Board Notices (re Water cut off for various reasons) received and investigated	27
Premises disinfected	99

In conclusion I desire to express my appreciation of the support given me by the Council in my efforts to improve the sanitary condition of the District.

My thanks are also due to the Medical Officer and fellow Officers for their courtesy and valuable assistance throughout the year.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

George Complin Over,

Asso. R. San. Inst.

Cert. M.I.

Sanitary Inspector.

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